

REMARKS

The Claim Amendments

After the above amendments, claims 71, 74–83, and 100–126 are pending in this application. Of the above, claims 78, 102–103, 106–107, 109–110 and 113–114, drawn to non-elected subject matter, are now withdrawn from consideration.

Applicants have amended the Listing of Claims to recite the identifier “Canceled” for claims 1–70, 72–73, and 84–99 and “Withdrawn” for claims 78, 102–103, 106–107, 109–110 and 113–114. Applicants have amended the Listing of Claims to recite the identifier “Not Entered” for claims 121–126. This reflects the status of those claims after the Advisory Action. Applicants request that claims 121–126 be entered in this application with the Request for Continued Examination.

None of the amendments adds new matter. Their entry is requested.

The Advisory Action

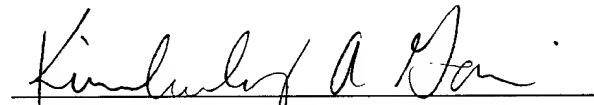
In the October 6, 2003 Advisory Action, the Examiner indicated that applicants’ July 28, 2003 Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 and Response to Final Office Action (“the 7/28/03 Amendment”) was not entered because it raised new issues that would require further consideration and/or search; it was not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or it presented additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims. The Examiner also indicated that claims 113 and 114 are non elected.

In the Request For Continued Examination submitted herewith, applicants requested that the 7/28/03 Amendment be entered. In the 7/28/03 Amendment, applicants added claims 121–126. Because the 7/28/03 Amendment was not entered, applicants have updated the Listing of Claims to recite the identifier “Withdrawn” for claims 78, 102–103, 106–107, 109–110 and 113–114 and “Not Entered” for claims 121–126. Upon entry of the 7/28/03 Amendment, the status of claims 121–126 would be (“Previously Presented”).

Conclusion

Applicants request that the Examiner enter the 7/28/03 Amendment, consider the foregoing amendments and remarks, and pass claims 71, 74–77, 79–83, 101, 104, 105, 108, 111, 112 and 115–126 to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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